

From: BARGONN@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 9:20pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a consumer and individual investor who owns stock in many Tech. companies, including Microsoft, AOL Time Warner, Sun microsystems, etc., I have followed the developments of the government's case against Microsoft, and the complaints filed by individual States and Microsoft's competitors. I continue to believe the settlement already reached between Microsoft, the Justice Dept., and several States Should be the final judgement on the matter. No one, especially Microsoft's competitors, has yet demonstrated any injury to consumers by Microsoft's business practices. Although Microsoft successfully won away customers from AOL's Netscape by giving their Web Browser away for free, one can hardly say this "injured" consumers. Getting a superior product for free is not what I would call being abused, nor is this an example of being deprived of choice. There was a choice, and consumers took the superior choice. Most savvy computer professionals agree that Internet Explorer is far better than the Netscape browser, and the Netscape browser cost money, it was not offered free. Also, Microsoft has always striven to establish standards in its software which would ensure its interoperability with many different applications and prevailing programs. Netscape's product could not boast the same attributes.

Also, today, as in the past, there is ample competition for Microsoft, in operating systems such as Unix, Linux, Java, etc., and in internet applications and access providers such as AOL time Warner, Earthlink, and many others. Microsoft is not a monopoly in my view, it is instead a great American success story which has driven the local and national economy, provided thousands of high-paying jobs, and has given much back to the community in raised living standards and charitable donations.

Please bring this legal challenge to a close, as it is not helping to protect consumers, it is not helping our economy to rebound, and it is not justified by the sour grapes failures of Microsoft's inadequate competitors who seek the government's aid in doing what they were unable to do in fair business competition.

Sincerely,

Baron Borrelli

Bellevue,

WA.